

REMARKS

As an initial matter Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of the allowability of subject matter of claims 23-36.

Applicants submit this Amendment in reply to the Office Action dated March 29, 2004. In this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 23 and 28 to further define the claimed invention. Claims 23 and 28 are the sole independent claims. Before entry of this Amendment, claims 23-36 were pending in this application. After entry of this Amendment, claims 23-36 are still pending in this application. The originally-filed specification, claims, abstract, and drawings fully support the subject matter of amended claims 23 and 28. No new matter was introduced.

In the Office Action, claims 23, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, and 36 were rejected under 25 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. Applicants have amended claims 23 and 28 to provide antecedent basis for "said delivery chamber" in claims 23, 28, 29, 33, 34, 35, and 36. However, Applicants assert that claim 36, as written, provides proper antecedent basis for "said first time period" in line 3 of claim 36, and for "said second time period" in line 5 of claim 36. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph rejection.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims which Applicants do not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, Applicants decline to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.


In discussing the claims in this Amendment, it is to be understood that Applicants are in no way intending to limit the scope of the claims to any exemplary embodiments described in the specification or abstract and/or shown in the drawings. Rather, Applicants are entitled to have the claims interpreted broadly, to the maximum extent permitted by statute, regulation, and applicable case law.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this Amendment and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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